

# Eastern Express

January/February 2011

## Inside this Issue:

From the Exec. Dir....page 1-3  
Upcoming Events...page 3  
Looking Ahead...page 4  
System News...page 5  
In the News...page 6  
What's New...page 7  
Youth Resources...page 8  
Scholarship Report...page 9  
Board Minutes...pages 10  
Talking Book & Braille... 11  
Summer Reading Wks...page 12  
School Lib. Day...page 13  
Legislative Day...page 14

Eastern Library System  
11929 Elm Street, Suite 18  
Omaha, NE 68144  
402-330-7884  
800-627-7884  
Fax 402-330-1859  
[www.elsne.org](http://www.elsne.org)

### Staff

Kathleen Tooker,  
Executive Director  
[ktooker@windstream.net](mailto:ktooker@windstream.net)  
Nancy Meyer, Administrative  
Assistant

Robin Bernstein  
Scott Berryman  
Gail Formanack  
Lowen Kruse  
Mary Jo Mack  
Joyce Neujahr  
David Privitt  
Marie Reidelbach  
Gayle Roberts  
Rosa Schmidt  
John Seyfarth  
Jan Therien

**E  
L  
S  
  
B  
O  
A  
R  
D**

The Newsletter of the Eastern Library System—SSN 1064-3486

From the Executive Director

**Kathy**

As an avid reader, I always have a book to read with me — usually a hardback I have borrowed from the library, but it could be an audio book I have downloaded. I don't have a e-book reader yet but one is on my "want list." One of the most pleasurable times to read is on one of these cold winter days when I can curl up with a book and a cup of tea or even better, a glass of wine and get so involved in a good story I forget where I am.

Like any reader, I am always asking friends and colleagues what good books they have read or are reading now. I asked the ELS Board of Directors and some friends who always give me good recommendations and will share.



**Joyce Neujahr**-Director of Patron Service  
Criss Library, UNO.

*Life of Pi* by Yann Martel

I was given this book as a Christmas present and am slowly working my way through the chapters. This isn't because the book doesn't hold my attention, quite the contrary. I wanted to finish it the first time I picked it up, I just can't put my other obligations on "pause" while I completely indulge myself. Darn responsibilities!

So far, in Martel's story a fifteen-year-old boy, the son of a zookeeper in Pondicherry, India survives a shipwreck several days out of Manila. He is the lone human survivor, but his lifeboat is occupied by a Bengal tiger named Richard Parker, an injured zebra, a hyena, and an orangutan. In relatively short order and true Darwinian fashion, their numbers are reduced to just two: the boy, Piscine Molitor Patel, and the tiger, Richard Parker.

I do know Pi eventually is rescued, but I'm still discovering the details. This book has been alternately harrowing and amusing, scientific and improbable, all mixed with spirituality and artfully written.

**Brenda Ealey**, Southeast Library System  
Administrator

*New American Table* by Marcus Samuelsson

It's a cookbook and more featuring the variety of food that immigration has brought to the American kitchen - plus stories of immigrants. Samuelsson is an award winning chef in NYC, plus an immigrant himself, born in Ethiopia and raised in Sweden and moved to the US in 1991. The stories and recipes are great. Plus a nice angle on the benefit immigration has played for the US in expanding our horizons in the area of food.

*The Only Game in Town: Sportswriting from The New Yorker*, edited by David Remnick.

It's a great collection of sports stories - on about every sport you can think of, from some great sports writers. And, if you're an avid sports fan you appreciate their craft - if you're not an avid sports fan you'll still enjoy this fun entertaining book.

**Marty Magee**— Education and Nebraska  
Liaison, National Library of Medicine.

*Overtreated: Why too Much Medicine is Making Us Sicker and Poorer* by Shannon Brownlee (not a fun book but very interesting).

*Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot.

In 1951 a poor black woman named Henrietta Lacks dies of cervical cancer, but pieces of the tumor that killed her - taken without her knowledge or consent - live on.

**Gail Formanack**, Director of Secondary  
Education, OPS. *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-time Indian* by Sherman Alexie.

(continued on next page)

This book is about a high school boy living on an Indian reservation in western Washington State. Despite being raised in a family impacted by poverty and alcoholism, a teacher recognizes his academic ability and recommends that he leave the reservation school if he wants to have hope of escaping that life. He courageously makes the choice to go to a white school off the reservation and is initially an outcast in both communities. This is the season selecting schools in Omaha, and this book really made me think about the different opportunities that students can access based upon the school selected. The story also made me reflect about the stereotypes and prejudices some white people have regarding Native Americans. I grew up in South Dakota and witnessed a lot of prejudice toward the Indians in our county. It makes me sad to remember how the one Indian boy we had in class was treated by some of my classmates. Anyway, this is a very entertaining and meaningful book.

**Mary Jo Mack**, John. A. Stahl Library (West Point) Director.

*The Bronze Horseman* by Paullina Simons. It's a historical novel set in St. Petersburg, Russia. This book is a couple of years old and over 800 pages and makes for a perfect winter read. I also have started to read *Unwind* to see what all the buzz is about.

**Robin Bernstein**, Freeman / Lozier Library (Bellevue University) Director.

*My Passion for Design* by Barbara Streisand. Interior design has never been an interest of mine—but Barbara has always interested me. I am finding she is more talented than I ever knew.

**Scott Berryman**, Public Affairs Consultant.

*A State of Readers: Nebraska's Carnegie Libraries* by Oliver B. Pollack.

This book is a history of how libraries started in small towns across the state, and how Carnegie dollars helped them advance so significantly.

*Last Child in the Woods* by Richard Louv.

It is about the loss of a fundamental connection between today's children and nature.

*The Big Short* by Michael Lewis.

The story of how a select group of contrarians bet against the mortgage market when the rest of Wall Street was pumping billions of dollars into a house of cards. A complex analysis of the overly complicated financial instruments that were created by the insiders, and how some common-sense contrarians stuck to sound, principled analysis to predict a collapse – and cashed in.

*Poor Charlie's Almanac: The Wit and Wisdom of Charles T. Munger*.

A collection of speeches from Warren Buffet's sidekick that is very pithy. Sage-like wisdom.

*The Spectrum: How to Customize a Way of Eating and Living Just Right for You and Your Family* by Dean Ornish.

The book Tom Osborne recommended to John Cook about finding a healthy balance in the physical arena of one's life in order to provide a platform for greatness.

*The Millionaire Mind* by Thomas J. Stanley.

An amazing analysis of survey results from people with a high net worth that shows some really normal characteristics. Should be subtitled "A guide to a rich life, money or not."

*Bikram's Beginning Yoga Class* by Bikram Choudhury.

The founder of the "Hot Yoga" style give detailed two-part (novice and experience) instruction in the most demanding workout I've ever done.

**Tammy Lorenz**—Karlen Memorial Library (Beemer) Director.

*Hell Corner* by David Baldacci's and *Cross Fire* by James Patterson. I'm almost finished with *Hell Corner* and it's been a really good book. Love the Camel Club members in his books and the political plots. I'm one of those who start a book and after I figure out the characters and the plot I jump to the last few pages, read the end, and then go back to the rest of the book. Have been that way since I can remember and as hard as I try to read a book from beginning to end, can't seem to manage it. I never seem to lose interest even though I know the ending!

**Rosa Schmidt**—Oakland Public Library Director

*City of Thieves* by David Benioff.

It is a tense adventure, a bittersweet coming-of-age-story. The time is WWII in Russia where 17 year old Lev Beniov has elected to stay and just been caught looting a German paratrooper's corpse—the penalty for which is execution. He and a Russian deserter also facing execution are spared by a Colonel Grechko on the condition that they acquire a dozen eggs for colonel's daughter's wedding cake. Their mission exposes them to the most ghoulish acts of the starved populace and takes them behind enemy lines.

*Strangers at the Feast* by Jennifer Vanderbes.

The story of a family on thanksgiving with all its glorious dysfunction. I found it easy to pick up and hard to put down especially after half way through. Each chapter is told through the eyes of the six main characters.

**Lisa Kelly**, NLC, Information Services Director.

*Into the Gauntlet* (39 Clues Series) by Margaret Peterson Haddix.

*Mennonite in a Little Black Dress* by Rhoda Janzen - The character of the mother was directly from a sit-com. Not sure if you want to laugh or slap her senseless. The narrator made some parts of the book unlikeable to me.

*Winter Solstice* by Rosamunde Pilcher. Every winter I reread this as do my mom and sisters. There are things we picked up from other reads we'd missed before our trip to Ireland.

(continued on next page)

**Julie Pinnell**, NLC, Information Services Librarian.  
*River Town: Two Years on the Yangtze* by Peter Hessler  
 Delightful and reads very much like fiction.  
*There's Nothing in This Book that I Meant to Say* by Paula  
 Poundstone...which is like hearing her stand up routine.  
 It does make me laugh out loud frequently.  
*Worth Dying for* by Lee Child. Featuring Jack Reacher  
 as the character who, no matter what, "does the right  
 thing." I read the books as fast as Lee Child can get  
 them published.

**Becky Pasco**—Coordinator, Library Science Education  
 Programs, University of Nebraska at Omaha.  
*Just Kids* by Patti Smith—I greatly enjoy reading biogra-  
 phies of musicians as, more often than not, they read like  
 very good historical fiction and allow me to relive mo-  
 ments, marked by music, in my own life. After reading  
*Just Kids*, I spent some hours reflecting on how much I  
 didn't know what was going on around me.

**Dorothy Willis**, retired librarian.  
*African Women: Three Generations* by Mark Mathabane  
 Published in 1994, this is the story of Mathabane's sis-  
 ter, mother and grandmother in South Africa. Well writ-  
 ten, gripping, and such miserable living conditions at that  
 time.  
*Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel.  
 The Henry VIII story told from the viewpoint of Thomas  
 Cromwell. It's an interesting point of view, but I found it  
 slow going part of the time.  
*U is for Undertow* by Sue Grafton.  
 I always love a Kinsey Milhone story.  
*Hunger Games* and *Catching Fire* by Suzanne Collins.  
 I devoured these two and am making myself take a break  
 before I read *Mockingjay*.

**Ray Willis**, another avid reader.  
*Horse Soldiers* by Doug Stanton.  
 Story about the Special Forces in Afghanistan shortly af-  
 ter 9/11. Good book with lots of interesting information  
 about what was going on early. Includes interesting and  
 different information about John Walker Lindh.  
*1812: The War that Forged a Nation* by Walter R. Borne-  
 man.  
 Includes more information about the war than I have run  
 into anywhere else. Interesting.  
 Read - *What Came Before He Shot Her* and *Careless in Red*  
 by Elizabeth George.

**We hope this list of books will encourage you to  
 read a book you might not have chosen before.**

## Upcoming Events

**February 4**—CLICK Meeting, 9:30 am,  
 Waterloo Public Library

**February 11, 2011** - ELS Board Meeting,  
 Bellevue University, 9:30 am

**February 18**—Summer Reading Program  
 Planning Workshop (see flyer on page 12)

**February 25**—Library Legislative Day, Lin-  
 coln. Plan now to attend. (see flyer on page  
 14)

**March 4**—DIRECT Meeting, 9:30 am,  
 Springfield Public Library

**March 18**—Microsoft Window 7 Workshop,  
 Sump Memorial Library, Papillion (more in-  
 formation will be coming)

**March 26**—School Librarians' Day, 8:00—  
 3:30, UNO (see flyer on page 13)

**April 8, 2011** - ELS Board Meeting, 9:30 am,  
 Wahoo Public Schools

**April 10-16** - National Library Week. The  
 American Library Association website has  
 some good ideas for celebrating.  
<http://www.ala.org/ala/conferencesevents/celebrationweeks/natlibraryweek/index.cfm>

**May 2-8** - Children's Book Week. Check out  
 this site for some ideas.  
<http://www.bookweekonline.com/>

*"My best friend is a person who  
 will give me a book I have not read."  
 Abraham Lincoln*

## Looking Ahead to 2011

[New Stuff...Good Stuff]

### Blair Public Library

(Gayle Roberts)

We are starting a pilot seniors program including delivering books and having adult "story time" every other week. The books will be picked up while leaving news ones...almost like running bookmobile with the van.



We are upgrading our after school activity sessions to include science experiments, not just crafts.

We are possibly partnering with the local newspaper to digitize the paper from the 1800s to the present. Hopefully we will be able to provide searchable files for researchers either free of charge or for a nominal fee. We will be increasing our genealogists ability to research with new equipment and training.

We are starting and E-Reader User Group.

We always try to outdo ourselves with our summer reading program and this year will include a dinner theatre presentation within the theme of "Stories Around the World."

### Sump Memorial Library, Papillion

(Toni Reese)

At least through April, we are going to have a "Last Saturday of the Month Party," These parties will be for elementary age kids and will feature a different book each month. The last Saturday in January, we are having a "Geronimo Stilton" party.

### Keene Memorial Library, Fremont

(Cathy McMahon)

To generate more foot traffic through our doors this new year we are implementing new weekly programming in our Children's Department. Here is the schedule of programs:

Monday's- Monthly F.A.N. Nights (Family Awareness Nights) We will offer topics of interest from the public. These will be from 6:30-7 pm with a question period following.

January -Stranger Danger

February - Humane Society and Dog Safety

March – Bullying

April – Spring Weather Awareness

May- Internet safety- (just in time for summer)

Tuesday's – GOT BOARD? We will be offering old fashioned games in a drop in type program. It will be from 4:00-4:45pm.

We also have and will continue to have our monthly after school drop in Crafts- The second Tuesday of the month, from 3:30-4:30 pm.

Wednesday- Treasure Hunt in the Stacks- clues will be left around the Children's department and the kids will have the chance to "find the treasure." Prizes will be given if the treasure is found, hoping to get the kids interested in using the card catalog and reading titles they normally would not select- targeted to both early and intermediate school age children.

Thursday- we are offering an evening story time with themes based on Night, Scared of the Dark, Camping, Stars, Animals of the Night etc... It will be held from 7-7:30 for any age but the stories will be targeted to pre-school early elementary.

Friday- NON FICTION; What's that about? This program will be held from 4:00-4:45 for ages 10-14. We will be looking at nonfiction titles and exploring what's inside and what makes nonfiction so fun to read...

Week One will be Magic-Learn it practice it on your friends!

Week Two will be Paper airplanes- how to fold and fly!

Week Three will be Drawing- Practice drawing your favorite characters!

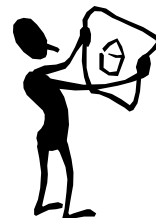
Week Four- Build a car out of household items!

Week Five- Hidden treasures in a bottle!

Week Six- Secret codes, secret messages!!

Week Seven- Paperclips – can do so many things!

Week Eight- Card houses- How many levels can you build?



**Keep in mind that while planning for 2011 that the Annual Youth Services Retreat is scheduled for September 8th and 9th at Camp Carol Joy Holling in Ashland.**

## System News



### 2010 Youth Grants for Excellence

The following ELS libraries have been awarded grants from the Nebraska Library Commission for their innovative programs.

- Bellevue Public Library - "Legos® @ Your Library"
- Bennington Public Library - "Every Child Ready to READ @ Your Library"
- Blair Public library - "Tales From Around the World"
- John Rogers Memorial Library, Dodge - "Celebrate 125 years of Dodge with Books"
- Baright Public Library, Ralston - "Awesome Learners"
- Wahoo Public Library - "AWE-some Advances in Childhood Literacy"
- The Eastern Library System and Southeast Library System - "Youth Services Retreat"

### Omaha Public Library

The Florence Branch of the Omaha Public Library has gone through a major remodel. The branch is located at 2920 Bondesson Street. In 2009, the City of Omaha decided to temporarily close the Florence Branch and lay off staff. The Florence community stated a fundraising campaign to keep the library open resulting in \$300,000 of donations. Last year the city was able to use funds from the Capital Improvement Project to remodel the branch and increase its size by 1500 square feet and features the following:

- Redesigned service desk area
- Enclosed computer lab with 10 computers
- Small study/meeting room
- Kids' computer stations and storytime area
- Large activity and meeting room
- Enclosed teen space with three computers, large screen TV and comfortable seating
- Increased public seating areas, including access to electrical outlets for person electron devices
- Small exterior courtyard

### Papillion

Robin Clark, director of the Sump Memoiral Library in Papillion, reports that the library's circulation for 2009-2010 increased by 13,825 to 221,564. Robin took the staff our to Old Chicago to celebrate!

### La Vista

The public library is offering an "Arts and Crafts Series for Adults." They are having classes every month through May. In January they held a cooking class with healthy choices for family meals. Upcoming classes include:

February 19—"Art of Weaving"

March 19—"Art of Jewelry Making"

April 9—"Art of Healthy Snacks for People on the Go"

May 14—"Quilt Project"

Call 402-537-3900 for more information.





## In the News

### NCompass

Due to state budget reductions, future print editions of the Nebraska Library Commission's *NCompass Newsletter* will be limited to the Annual/Biennial Report editions. Instead you can receive a weekly email that offers a short summary of each posting of the NCompass blog from the week before. To subscribe go to: [eepurl.com/HSkX](http://eepurl.com/HSkX).

### State of Public Libraries in Nebraska

Two reports to take a look at:

1. Nebraska Public Library Statistical Survey—2005-2009. This survey can be located in the *NCompass Newsletter Biennium Review 2009-2010*.
2. New Normal for Libraries Survey—The State Advisory Council on Libraries members Steve Fosselman, Merrillene Wood, and Kate Borchman Hassebrook, with assistance from Kathryn Brockmeier, NLC, recently developed and distributed a survey to follow-up on the work and talks held at the SACL meeting last year. Responses from libraries (public, school, academic, community college, special and institutional) include comparisons to last year's budget, staffing levels, hours, and Friends and volunteers. Results of the survey can be viewed at [www.nlc.state.ne.us/stadv/NewNormalforLibraries.pdf](http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/stadv/NewNormalforLibraries.pdf).

### Site Seeing

- [wiki.itap.purdue.edu/display/INSITE/eb+20+Tools](http://wiki.itap.purdue.edu/display/INSITE/eb+20+Tools) - Purdue University offers their Web site 2.0 Tools wiki site on which they have categorized a host of useful Web-based tools ranging from blogging option to photo/ video editing and sharing sites along with social networking and presentation tools. (Thanks to Karen Hein for this suggestion)
- [www.techsupportalert.com/content/50-places-free-books-online.htm](http://www.techsupportalert.com/content/50-places-free-books-online.htm) - 250+ Places for Free Books Online — Check the new list on Gizmo for Websites that offer free eBooks for download or online viewing.
- [www.radiolovers.com](http://www.radiolovers.com) - Here you can listen to hundreds of wonderful old radio broadcasts.
- [www.wimp.com](http://www.wimp.com) - G-rated family-oriented videos that is updated daily with 5 new videos.

- [www.time-warp.org](http://www.time-warp.org) - Learn about the technology that evolved during each era. View pictures of then-new technologies such as reel-to-reel tape recorders, desktop calculators and manual typewriters.
- [www.fictfact.com/index.aspx](http://www.fictfact.com/index.aspx) - FictFact is dedicated to helping you read fiction book series in order. Browse by series, author, most popular overall, genre, and calendar. If you register, the site will even notify you what and when it is coming out.

### Interesting Tidbits

Holes in Catalog Cards—December 3 was the 175th birthday of the man who put the hole in library catalog cards, Otis Hall Robinson (1835-1912, Rochester University Librarian. Robinson is noted more for his advocacy for library instruction than for his idea for dealing with the annoying tendency of library users to remove catalog cards and put them back in the wrong order. Just think, this idea was adopted by every library in the country. Robinson's plan called for the hole to be punched in the lower left-hand corner to run a rod thought to hold the cards in place. Later with the development of standard catalog cabinet drawers the hole was moved to the center. [from the *Library History Buff Blog*, author Larry Nix]

Oxford English Dictionary—A team of 80 lexicographers has been working on the third edition of the this venerable dictionary for the past 21 years and is estimated to be more than a decade away. With sales of print dictionaries falling, this will probably be the last print *OED*.

Simon Winchester, author of *The Meaning of Everything: The Story of the Oxford English Dictionary* said, 'Until six months ago I was clinging to the idea that printed books would likely last for ever. Since the arrival of the iPad I'm now wholly convinced otherwise. The printed book is about to vanish at extraordinary speed. I have two complete *OEDs*, but never consult them—I use online *OED* five or six times daily.' [From *The Telegraph* (UK), September 2, 2010. Seen in *Library Administrator's Digest*, October 2010]

\*Note: For a fascinating story about the making of the first *OED* read: *The Professor and the Madman: A Tale of Murder, Insanity, and the Making of the Oxford English Dictionary*.



## Basic Skills

One of the requirement for public librarian certification is having training in the basic skills of librarianship. For many years the Nebraska Library Basic Skills Training Courses had been offered through periodic face-to-face classes. The new Basic Skills classes will be offered online only and in required and elective modules. For more information take a look at these sites on the Nebraska Library Commission webpage.

## Frequently Asked Questions

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/basic/nbsfaq.html>

## List of the modules

<http://www.nlc.state.ne.us/libdev/basic/NBScourses.html>

## Award Winners

The American Library Association announced its Newbery and Caldecott medal winners for 2011 at its Midwinter meeting in San Diego.

**John Newbery Medal** for the most outstanding contribution to children's literature goes to "Moon Over Manifest," by Clair Vanderpool.

**The Randolph Caldecott Medal** winner for most distinguished American picture book for children is "A Sick Day for Amos McGee," illustrated by Erin Stead. The book is written by Philip Stead.



**Nebraska StoryArts** is bringing the storyteller Charlie Chin to perform stories in the "Teahouse Style" of Chinese storytelling to Omaha from

February 28—March 4, 2011. Mr. Chin presents traditional Chinese storytelling at school, libraries, museums and festivals across the country and Canada. His is also the author of children's books and has been teaching, performing, writing and composing for more than 30 years. For more information or to book a performance contact:

Gail Teten

Western Hills Magnet Center

6523 Western Ave.

Omaha, NE 68132

402-554-1510

[gail.teten@ops.org](mailto:gail.teten@ops.org)

## Nebraska State Reading Association Annual Reading Conference

This conference will be held February 24-26, 2011, in Kearney. For more information go to:

<http://www.nereads.org>. The preconference on Thursday, Feb. 24th features sessions to help students become better readers, evaluation of new nonfiction titles, English language learners, strategies for reaching and teaching culturally and linguistically diverse learners, how to engage boy readers, and improving students' reading comprehension.

There will be displays of Nebraska authors' books and exhibits of products and services. Patricia Edwards, president of the International Reading Association is a featured speaker. Many sessions are available on both Friday and Saturday. On Saturday morning there will be a "Literacy Walk" and a Tai Chi session.

## Wal-Mart Store and Sam's Club Giving Program

Organizations that meet the eligibility requirements for these programs can request an application at their local Wal-Mart Store or Sam's Club. Applications for the Wal-Mart Store and Sam's Club Giving Programs are accepted Feb. 1 through Dec. 31. Minimum grant award is \$250. Maximum grant awards depend on the budget of the facility to which you are applying.

See website for eligibility requirements. <http://walmartstores.com/CommunityGiving/8916.aspx>

## Resources for Youth Services & School Librarians

### YALSA'S 2010 Teens' Top Ten List includes:

1. *Catching Fire* by Suzanne Collins
2. *City of Glass* by Cassandra Clare
3. *Heist Society* by Ally Carter
4. *Shiver* by Maggie Stiefvater
5. *Hush, Hush* by Becca Fitzpatrick
6. *Beautiful Creatures* by Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl
7. *Along for the Ride* by Sarah Dessen
8. *If I Stay* by Gayle Forman
9. *Fire* by Kristin Cashore
10. *Wintergirls* by Laurie Halse Anderson

Did you know that teens choose the winners? Go to [www.ala.org/yalsa](http://www.ala.org/yalsa) and take a look at the Took Kit for the Top Ten List for more information, programming ideas, publicity, and reproducible promotional items.

### More News from YALSA

The Young Adult Library Services Association launched the inaugural issue of its new, open-access, peer-reviewed electronic research journal, the *Journal of Research on Libraries and Young Adults* at [yalsa.ala.org/jrlya](http://yalsa.ala.org/jrlya). The first issue highlights paper presentations from YALSA's young Adult Literature Symposium held in November 2010.

**Sarah English**, Youth Services Coordinator for the Omaha Public Library, is on the JRLYA Advisory Committee. She says the committee is a virtual one with some conference calls. Committee members indicate which types of articles they felt comfortable reviewing; each article is sent to two people with some knowledge of the subject area. Their aim is to encourage more research in the field and want the JRLYA experience to be positive. Anyone can access the article in the journal.

**JacketFlap** ([www.jacketflap.com](http://www.jacketflap.com)) connects you to the work of more than 200,000 authors, illustrators, publishers, and other creators of books for children and Young Adults. The site is updated daily with information about every book, author, illustrator, and publisher in the area of children's and young adult book industry. Members include published authors and illustrators, librarians, agents, editors, publicists, booksellers, publishers, and fans. You can also find blogs written by authors.

**The winner of the 2011 Scott O'Dell Award** for Historical Fiction is *One Crazy Summer* by Rita Williams-Garcia, published by Amistad.

The summer Delphine is "eleven going on twelve" she and her two younger sisters, Vonetta and Fern, are sent from Brooklyn to Oakland to visit their mother, Cecile, who left the family soon after Fern was born. Beginning with the girls' first scary but exhilarating plane ride, their summer of 1968 is a microcosm of the new directions in which the nation found itself traveling. Their mother, distrustful and secretive, has renamed herself Nzila; she sends the girls off every morning for breakfast and summer school at the Black Panthers' People's Center.

Delphine recalls the heroine of a book she has brought along for the summer — Scott O'Dell's *Island of the Blue Dolphins*.

**CLICK** - (Children's Librarians Information and Coffee Klatch) will meet February 4th, 9:30 am at the Agnes Robinson Waterloo Public Library. Please contact Linda Oyster if you are coming - [LOWaterlooLibrary@yahoo.com](mailto:LOWaterlooLibrary@yahoo.com)

We will be talking about the "perfect children's section in the library" - bring 10 titles of books to include in this perfect collection.







## Beth's Trip to San Diego

[Beth Lighthipe, Bellevue University Library, received a scholarship from Eastern Library System to attend the ALA Midwinter conference.]

Attending the ALA Midwinter meeting was a fantastic experience, especially since it happened to be in sunny San Diego in the middle of a cold Nebraska winter. Besides that though, it was my first time attending an ALA conference and I really did not know what to expect.

The purpose of my trip was to attend an all day orientation and training for the ALA Emerging Leaders (EL) program on Friday, January 7. I was recently accepted into this leadership development program for newer library workers from across the country.

I joined eighty-two other EL individuals to learn more about this initiative and to meet my project team members.

I was matched with four other librarians from Ohio, Indiana and Illinois to complete a project called "Money Smart Week." We will be working with a mentor from ALA and a representative from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago to promote and create materials for "Money Smart Week @ Your Library."

Our project goal is to help libraries improve financial literacy among their patrons of all ages. Since we live in different states, we will have to work together virtually, which may be a challenge. But we plan to use a variety of online tools to communicate including Doodle, Google Groups, and FreeConferenceCall.com. Once we complete our project, we will present our results at the ALA Annual Meeting in New Orleans and on the ALA website.

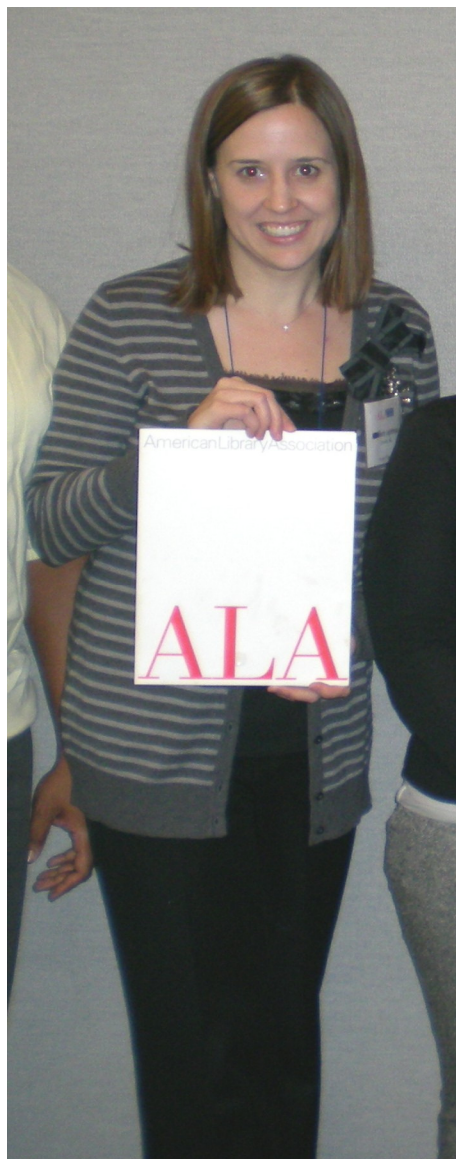
After our long day of training and discussion, we were rewarded with invites to receptions and parties, including one hosted by the current ALA President, Molly Raphael. She graciously hosted a private reception for the EL group on the 25<sup>th</sup> floor of her presidential suite. We were spoiled with views of the San Diego bay and city lights,

and delicious desserts and drinks. After just a day together, I noticed how comfortable we were socializing together. I felt at ease and among friends. Finally, around 11 PM I called an end to my exciting day and headed back to my hotel.

I left San Diego Saturday afternoon so I did not have much time to attend other conference events. Almost all the meetings on Saturday morning were committee meetings, so I decided to explore the exhibits hall. I was completely overwhelmed by the exhibits floor. If I had known there would be so many free giveaways including books I would have taken a much bigger suitcase!

As I made my way to the airport, I struggled to carry my now heavy suitcase. But I knew I had no reason to complain. I feel much more prepared for the ALA Annual meeting in New Orleans and look forward to seeing my new friends at this event.

I am so grateful for the support of the Eastern Library System to help make this experience possible.



## Eastern Library System Board Meeting Minutes

December 12, 2010

Eastern Library System Office

Board Members Present: Joyce Neujahr, Lupe Mier, Marie Reidelbach, Gayle Roberts, John Seyfarth, David Privett, Robin Bernstein, Lowen Kruse, Gail Formanack, Rosa Schmidt, Mary Jo Mack. Ex-officio: Kathy Tooker, Nancy Meyer. Guests: Richard Miller, Nebraska Library Commission.

Robin called the meeting to order. It was agreed that introductions were not necessary and Richard Miller was announced as a guest.

Minutes of the October 10, 2010, meeting were discussed. Marie Reidelbach moved and Lowen Kruse seconded to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's reports for October and November, 2010, were reviewed. They were approved to be filed for audit.

Correspondence: an email from Dorothy Willis; a thank-you from Scottsbluff regarding the calendar; a note from Sister Healy at the College of St. Mary's; and an invitation to the Florence Branch grand opening.

Administrator's Report: See written report. Kathy offered highlights including the good response and attendance at the Systems' Blackbelt Librarian Preconference in Grand Island; the "Putting Your Library Customer First" workshop held in Papillion and the Critical Conversation meeting that discussed staffing issues.

The Board broke into committee meetings for approximately 20 minutes. Committee reports then followed:

- **Nominating:** Gail Formanack announced those terms are eligible for renewal. Rosa Schmidt and Gayle Roberts agreed to a second term. Lowen Kruse accepted but offered the condition that he begin searching the Legislature for a replacement. Tammy Lorenz will be asked to fill the remaining vacancy.
- **Fundraising:** Marie Reidelbach reported that all Carnegie calendars were sold. The NLA Raffle netted \$56.00 and the Uncensored Librarians calendar is currently showing a substantial profit. The committee is investigating the possibility of holding a garage sale.

- **Technology:** John Seyfarth discussed sessions that could be held to update members on new technology. These include: E-Readers, Google Books, Video Playaways and a demo on Word Press.
- **Continuing Education:** Joyce Neujahr had no additional continuing education sessions planned at this time.
- **Advocacy:** Gayle Roberts reported that the committee is examining ways to continually advise members on ways to publicize the need and use of libraries. The committee will be looking at putting together a publicity kit that could be housed on the System's webpage.

Guest Richard Miller presented an update from the Nebraska Library Commission. A handout was distributed to the members. Youth in Excellence grants were awarded and members of the Eastern Library System received over \$10,000 in grants.

### New Business:

- A grant request was submitted by Jan Bolte at LaVista to hold an arts and crafts workshop program for adults. John Seyfarth moved and Lowen Kruse seconded to approve said grant. The motion carried.
- The last item before the Board was the report on the annual audit. Kathy Tooker reported that the audit was completed in a timely fashion and held no irregularities. Financial Statements were distributed to the members. John Seyfarth moved and David Privett seconded to approve the audit. Motion carried.

Robin Bernstein announced that the next meeting would be held on February 11<sup>th</sup> at the Bellevue University Library.

There being no more business before the Board, Marie Reidelbach moved and Joyce Neujahr seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gayle Roberts  
Secretary



## 2010: A Very Good Year for Talking Book & Braille Service

by Dave Oertli, Talking Book and Braille Service Director

2010, a fast year, has made me feel grateful. You probably know the Talking Book and Braille Service is now in its second year of transition away from audio cassette to flash memory cartridge. Our Nebraska-based studio magazines now circulate on cartridge; though, except for Neblin, are also being offered on cassette. We are one of the first, if not the first, Library of Congress talking book library to distribute its studio magazines on cartridge. Nebraska-based magazines now circulate 50% digital and 50% cassette.

All new books from our own studios are being circulated on cartridge; and soon new Nebraska books will no longer be offered on cassette. The same will be true for new talking books from Library of Congress. Our Nebraska collection (recorded in our studios) is being transferred to cartridge. Completing this task will require several more years. Our Nebraska books and books from Library of Congress now circulated 45% digital and 55% cassette. We now have 3600 book titles on cartridge, with new titles arriving almost daily; and 59,000 titles on cassette. Still, within months, our circulation on cartridge should match or exceed that on cassette.

To the best of my knowledge, all established talking book borrowers have been contacted at least once about the new Library of Congress digital player. Most borrowers have either welcomed the new players or accepted them. They are encouraged to retain their Library of Congress cassette players until the transition is completed. All new borrowers are being set up for digital automatically. Several hundred established borrowers have postponed or declined the new players, even though they are easier to operate than the cassette players.

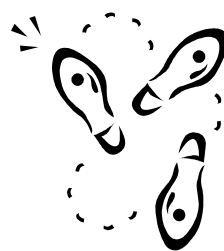
For borrowers who have high-speed internet access, the Library of Congress offers a web site known as BARD where audio books and magazines are available for direct download. Many borrowers are navigating BARD independently, and some are receiving help from family members. Borrowers who use BARD can download their favorite books and maga-

zines anytime without waiting for material to arrive through the mail.

2010 has been an exciting year for talking book librarians. 2011 holds great promise!

Editor's Note: Thank you Dave for all your hard work. Having a "very good year," as you stated, is largely due to your efforts. Congratulations on your success.

\*\*\*\*\*



**Steps to take to avoid  
SPAM: A Checklist**  
[seen in *Smart Computing*]

### DO

- Classify spam as spam or junk when it hits your email inbox
- Add bad email addresses to a blacklist or blocked list
- Report abuses when possible to the FTC (spam@uce.gov)
- Be smart about your internet habits—what you download and the links you visit can invite malware, which opens you up to spammers

### DON'T

- Open or read suspicious emails or follow links from senders you don't know
- Download images in a suspicious email
- Reply to or attempt to unsubscribe to a spam email
- Provide a link to your email address anywhere online
- Use the same email address for sensitive information, such as bank records or credit card statements, and registering for online newsletter, lists, and other less rigorously secure online activities



# One World Many Stories



## Eastern Library System Summer Reading Workshop 2011

February 18, 2011  
Keene Memorial Library  
1030 North Broad Street, Fremont

9:00 - 9:30 am	Registration & Refreshments
9:30 - 10:30	Anne Fuller, author of "Belle Boy: A Sister in the Rebel Ranks"
10:30 - 11:00	Break and Book Signing Anne will have books to buy - cost will be \$10.65
11:00-12:00	Book Reviews by Sally Snyder
Noon-12:45	Lunch
1:00-3:00	Share Time - Bring a book, craft, program or other idea to share. (please bring 40 copies of your idea/bibliography)

**Cost: \$17** (checks to ELS) which includes lunch  
6 hours of continuing education credit

**\*\*YOU MUST SEND YOUR REGISTRATION BY FEBRUARY 11TH.** You may pay at the door if necessary but please indicate that on your registration and mail or fax (402-330-1859) by the due date. Don't wait on your city to send it!

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Library\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

Email\_\_\_\_\_

Snow date: March 4th.  
Please call the office if the  
weather looks bad on the  
18th.

Send to:  
Eastern Library System  
11929 Elm Street, Suite 18  
Omaha, NE 68144



Sponsored by Eastern Library System, Nebraska Educational Media Association, University of Nebraska at Omaha

**School Librarians' Day**  
**March 26, 2011**  
**University of Nebraska @ Omaha, Kayser Hall**



**8:00-8:25 am**

*Coffee and Refreshments*

**Session I (8:30-9:20)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Policies: Why Schools Need Them - Nancy Larimer, Lincoln Public Schools

**Session II (9:30-10:20) Book Reviews**

\_\_\_\_\_ Elementary - Sally Snyder, Nebraska Library Commission

**OR**

\_\_\_\_\_ Junior/Senior High School - Paul Christopherson, Omaha Public Library

**10:30-10:45**

*Break*

**Session III(10:50-11:40 am)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Guide to Integrated Library Services - Mary Reiman, Lincoln Public Schools



**11:45-12:15**

*Lunch*

**Session IV (12:20-1:20 pm)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Talk Tables (morning sessions topics) -20-minutes per table

**Session V (1:30-2:20 pm)**

\_\_\_\_\_ The Future of Reading - Joy Harvey, Lincoln Public Schools &  
 Anna Bley, Papillion La Vista South High School

**Session V (2:30-3:20pm) Book Reviews**

\_\_\_\_\_ What Can You Do with an iPad? - Sara Churchill, Blair Public Schools

**Please Mark the sessions you will be attending**

Cost—\$20 (includes lunch). Please register by **March 18th**. Make checks to ELS and mail to:

Eastern Library System  
 11929 Elm Street, Suite 18  
 Omaha, NE 68144  
 402-330-7884  
[ktooker@windstream.net](mailto:ktooker@windstream.net)

Name\_\_\_\_\_

School\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_Home Phone\_\_\_\_\_



**8:00-9:00 a.m. Coffee and Doughnuts in Room 1126, State Capitol**

Start the day off with refreshments and a visit with our senators, staff members and other librarians.

*Don't Come Alone:* Invite your senator, trustees and city officials too!

**9:30-10:30 a.m. Briefing at Lincoln Woman's Club — 407 S. 14th**

You will receive information on current legislation and library issues from Ken Winston, NLA's lobbyist, receive an update from State Librarian Rod Wagner.

**10:30-11:30 a.m. Visit your Senator's office! Escort them to Lunch!**

**NOON Lunch at the Cornhusker Hotel**

Invite your senator to a great lunch. The cost is \$20 per person. Please make sure to escort him/her to the luncheon. If your senator is unable to attend, invite his/her legislative aide — they are important contacts in the lobbying process and you should get to know them.

**1:15-3:00 p.m. Afternoon Session**

Tour the State Library – the oldest library in Nebraska, followed by a tour of the capitol.

Register online at <https://web.memberclicks.com/mc/quickForm/viewForm.do?orgId=nlia&formId=94488>

**Registrations must be received by: February 20, 2011  
4 hours of Continuing Education**

